

Stereo Times

2006 Consumer Electronics Show Report

By Michael Wright

Usher Audio

My other "Outstanding Room" goes to Usher Audio. There was no other room, except for maybe the Dartzeel and the Plinius rooms, that was as busy as this one was, and for good cause. Usher Audio offers up some of the very best sounding speakers for anyone to listen to at affordable prices at the Show. Every year I marvel at their demo and this year was no different. I listened to the Usher BE20 speakers (\$16.4K) being driven by the Usher R1.5 amplifier (\$2500), Usher P307 preamplifier (\$2280), the Usher CD1 CD player (\$800), and all cabling was by Kimber Cable and Acoustic Zen. The music reproduction from this system was outstanding. I am not an R. Kelly fan, but they played a disc of a duet with R. Kelly and Ronald Isley that was breath taking. I could easily close my eyes and feel them in that room, even with all of the activity going on about me. I heard no other vocal rendered better during my three days going from room to room.